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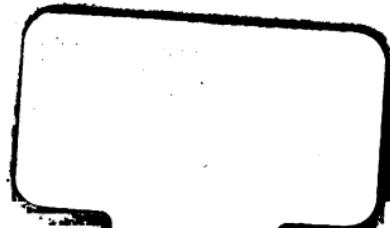
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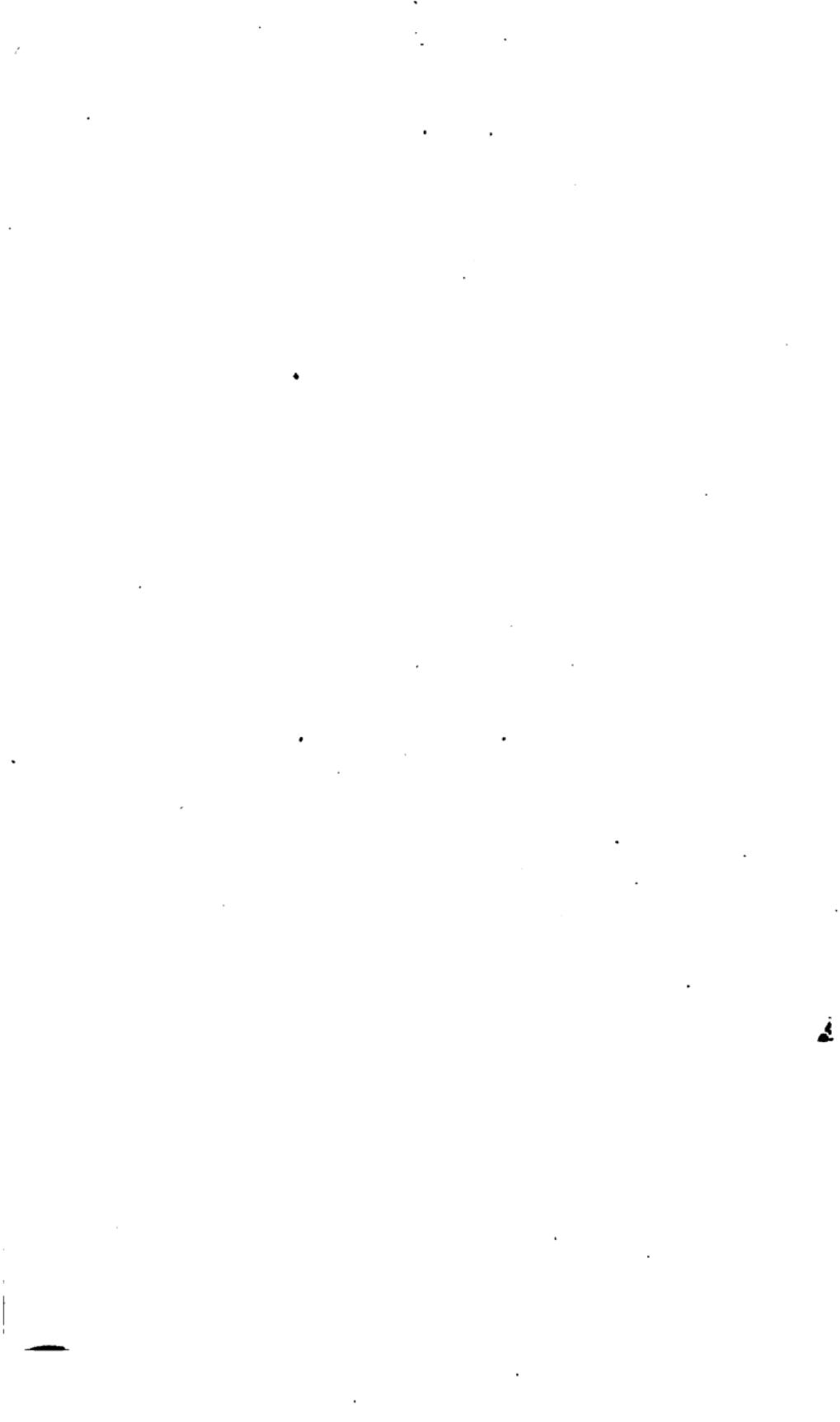




THE

First Baron of Baltimore.

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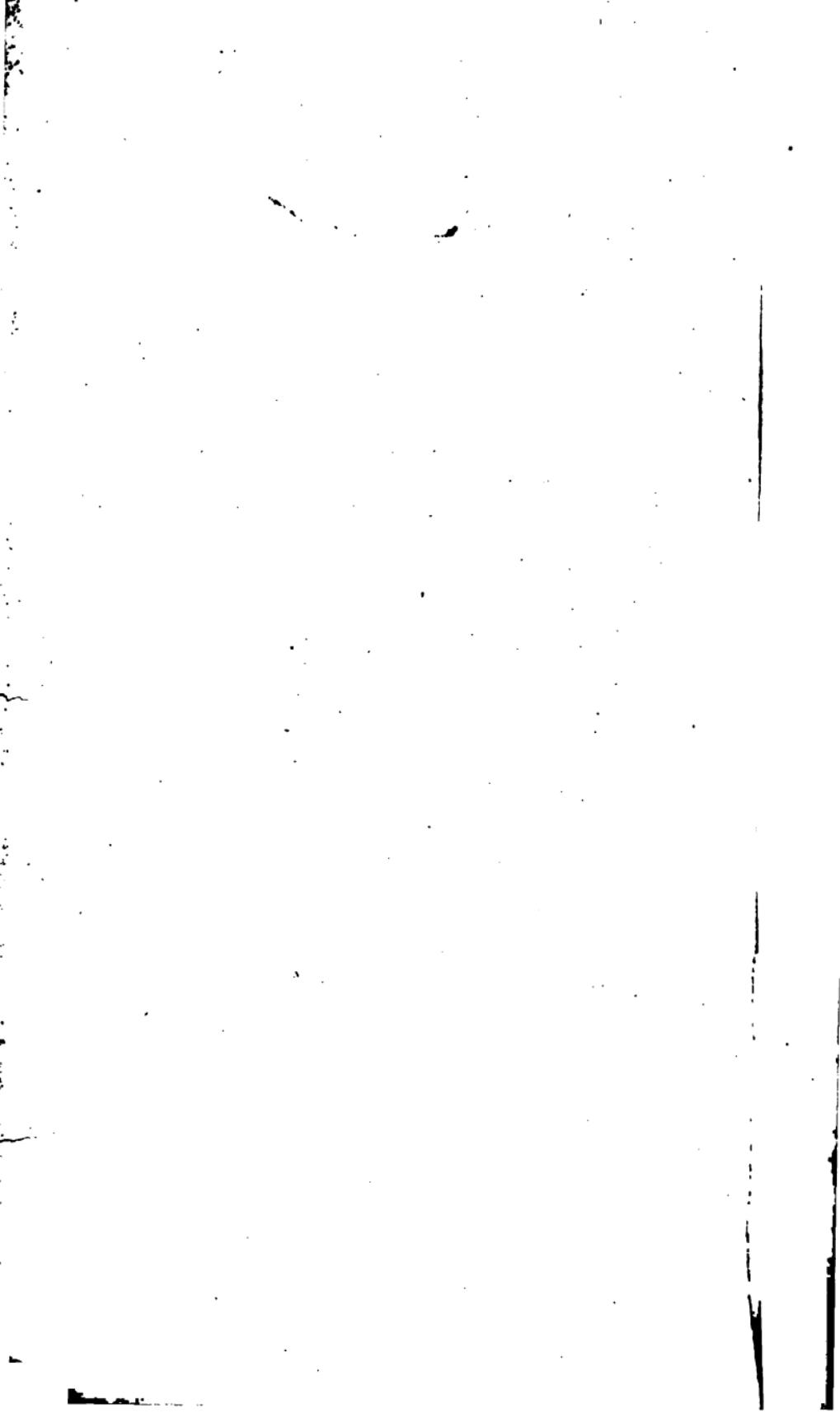


No 6

THE FIRST
BARON OF BALTIMORE.

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SIR GEORGE CALVERT,

CREATED

BARON OF BALTIMORE,

In the County of Longford, Ireland;

AND

PROJECTOR OF THE PROVINCE OF MARYLAND,

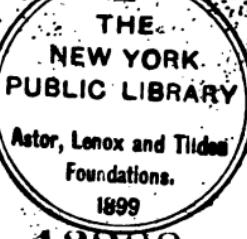
BY

EDWARD D. NEILL.

Nec falsa dicere, nec vera reticere.

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INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

ABOUT a year ago, the editor of the London Athenæum wrote a sketch of George Calvert, with a pen that had a sting in it, like the scorpion's tail. An able and accomplished jurist of the city of Baltimore, in a trenchant review of the article, uses the following language relative to the Charter said to have been written by the projector of the Province of Maryland :

" We are proud of his great charter, as one of the noblest of the works that human hands have ever reared, the most glorious proclamation ever made of the liberty of thought and worship."

The following pages form the first part of a little work on the Founders of Maryland, which may be published at no distant day ; and if their perusal convinces the unprejudiced that the original Charter of Maryland does not contain a single provision for civil or religious freedom, still none the less

INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

to be honored are advocates of "the liberty of thought and worship" wherever and whenever discovered.





DEDICATION.

HON. JOHN R. FRANKLIN,
SNOW HILL, WORCESTER COUNTY, MD.

To you, a native of the adjoining county where, a century and a half ago, my great grandfather was an attorney-of-law; whose house is in sight of the mansion where my grand-father, a practitioner of medicine, lived for many years, and my father, after receiving a diploma, commenced professional life, and also, not far distant from the old academy, in which one “animæ dimidium meæ” was educated; whose garden, moreover, adjoins a grave yard, full of precious dust, the remains of a college classmate, and many other near relatives; are dedicated these brief notes, corroborative of “Terra Mariæ or, Threads of Maryland Colonial History;” published by J. B. Lippincott & Co. Philadelphia; for no one more fully appreciates the remark of the poet Southey, that “what-

DEDICATION.

ever strengthens our local attachments is favorable to individual and national character. Our home, our birth-place, our native land! Think, for a while, what the virtues are which arise out of the feelings connected with these words; and if thou hast any intellectual eyes, then wilt thou perceive the connection between topography and patriotism."

It has been my aim in the following pages, to present facts, whenever possible, in the language of those who lived at the same period as the Founders of Maryland, and to follow the method of the Roman Vegetius, in his treatise on Military Art:

"Nihil enim mihi auctoritatis assumo, sed quæ dispersa sunt, velut in ordinem epitomata conscribo."

EDWARD D. NEILL.

ANACOSTAN HEIGHTS,
near Washington, D. C.





FOUNDERS OF MARYLAND.

GEORGE CALVERT, BARON OF BALTIMORE.

GEORGE CALVERT, the first Lord Baltimore, and the projector of the Province of Maryland, was one of the ablest and most brilliant of those who shared the confidence of the stottish James the First, of England. After graduating at Oxford, he expanded his mind by travel on the continent of Europe and, upon his return, entered into public life. In the year 1606, he was a member of Parliament for Bos-siney, in Cornwall, and then found favor with Robert Cecil, Earl of Salisbury. On February 22, 1607, Richard Whyte wrote: “ ’Tis said that Mr. Calvert, my Lord of Salisbury’s Secretary, shall be Clerk of the Council;” and the rumor was soon confirmed.

Winwood, Ambassador to the States, sent to

England in 1611 a copy of the book on the "Attributes of the Deity," by Vorstius, the successor of Arminius in the University of Leyden, with the remark that there "was matter enough in it for a wit, that hath either spirit or courage;" and in January, 1612, Calvert mentions in a note to Salisbury that "he is writing out the discourse which the King began, concerning Vorstius." In 1613, he was Commissioner to visit Ireland and examine certain grievances; and in 1617 was made a Baronet, and addressed as Sir George Calvert. Advancing in the estimation of James, in 1619, he was commissioned as principal Secretary of State.

A letter written on February 20, 1618-19, alludes to this appointment in these words :

"The King went to Theobalds on Tuesday, but, before his going, Sir George Calvert was sworn Secretary. I had an inkling of it two or three days before, though the patent was drawn with a blank, and the voice ran generally with Packer. The night before he was sworn, the Lord of Buckingham told him the King's resolution, but he disabled himself divers ways, but especially that he thought himself unworthy to sit in that place, so lately possessed by his noblo Lord and master. The King was well pleased with his answer, and modesty, and, sending for

him, asked many questions most about his wife. His answer was, that she was a good woman, and had brought him ten children, and would assure his Majesty that she was not a wife with a witness."

From this time he was the busiest at the Court, and recognized as the right hand man of the King. In common with most of the public spirited men of the age, he was deeply interested in the colonization of distant lands, and became a member of both the Virginia and East India Companies. In 1620, he purchased an interest in Newfoundland, where several plantations had been opened, in the hope that he might derive profit from the fisheries. Sir William Alexander, Secretary for Scotland, wrote : "Master Secretary Calvert hath planted a company at Ferriland, who, both for buildings and making trial of the ground, have done more than was ever performed by any in so short a time, having on hand a brood of horses, kowes, and other beastials, and, by the industry of his people, he is beginning to draw back yearly some benefits from thence already."

The clergyman of the settlement was a Protestant, and Hayman, the Governor of Newfoundland, and a friend of "rare Ben Jonson," dedicated the following :

"To my reverend, kind friend, Erasmus Sturton, Preacher of the Word of God, and Parson of Ferryland, in the Province of Avalon, in Newfoundland.

"No man should be more welcome to this place
Than such as yon, Angel of peace and grace.
As you were sent here by the Lord's command,
Be you the blest Apostle of this land.
To infidels do you evang:lize,
Making those that are rude, sober and wise.
I pray the Lord that did you lither send,
Our cursings, swearing, jouring mend."

Soon after Sir George Calvert became one of the proprietors of Newfoundland his eldest son, christened Cecil, but known as Cecilius, married Anna, the beautiful daughter of the Earl Arundel, an adherent of the Church of Rome.

His intimacy at this period with Gondomar, the Spanish, and Tillieres,* the French Ambas-

* Tillieres afterward became Lord Chamberlain to Henrietta Maria, in view of her marriage to Charles the First. Shortly after her arrival in England on Sunday, 19th of June, 1625, at high mass at Denmark House, he was made Knight of the French Order of the Holy Ghost. The Queen brought in her train from France twenty-nine priests, who exercised so much influence over her that at length Lord Conway dismissed, by order of the King, all her French attendants. "The women howled," says an old writer, "and lamented as if they had been going to execution, but all in vain, for the yeomen of the guard, by the Lord's appoint-

sador was marked, and the latter who despised both the English religion and people, made an exception in favor of Calvert, and in a dispatch of November 25, 1621, said : "The third man in whose hands the public affairs are ostensibly lodged, is the Secretary of State, Calvert. He is an honorable, sensible, well-minded man, courteous to strangers, full of respect towards Ambassadors, zealously intent for the welfare of

ment, thrust them and all their country folks out of the Queen's lodgings, and locked the doors after them." The King then issued the following order to Buckingham :

"I command you to send all the French away to-morrow out of town, if you can by fair means, but stick not long in disputing ; otherwise force them away, driving them away like so many wild beasts, until you have shipped them, and so the devil go with them. Let me hear of no answer, but of the performance of my command.

So I rest your faithful, constant, loving friend,

"C. R."

John Pory, who had been Secretary of the first legislative assembly in America, convened at Jamestown, Virginia, in a letter dated September 2, 1626, at London, wrote that Tillieres, was coming back to England as an Ambassador, and added these words :

"His Majesty hath sent an express prohibition to Tillieres that he shall not presume to set foot on English shore in that quality, because he will not admit of his late sworn servant to be checkmate with him. But the truth is Tillieres is too much Jesuited for our state to endure, and hath lately done ill offices there against us."

England, but by reason of these good qualities, entirely without consideration or influence."

As soon as the Parliament assembled in November, 1621, of which Sir George Calvert was a member, it was evident that they had no sympathy for the proposed marriage of Prince Charles and the Infanta of Spain, and King James foreseeing a stormy discussion retired to New Market ostensibly on account of his health, "but indeed to be farther from that noise of the discontent of the Commons, caused by the intended Spanish match." Calvert was chagrined at the opposition in the House of Commons, and with acrimony related the proceedings to the King, who wrote an angry letter complaining of the "fiery, popular, and turbulent spirits" in the House, and denying their right of petition in points, he had forbidden to be discussed. This was answered by the House, and the letter carried by Pym and others to the King, who again replied in arrogant sentences, and the House immediately appointed a committee to prepare a protest. Hallam states that the court now became alarmed, and Secretary Calvert went down to the House with an explanatory message, but they were not quieted. Calvert and the ministers seeing the coming storm, made a still more desperate effort to arrest it by admitting the

King's closing expressions in his letter to be incapable of defense, and calling them a slip of the pen at the close of a long letter.

On August 8, 1622, the wife of Calvert, the mother of eleven children, died in child-birth, and from that period he was more intimate with the Arundel family.

Eight months after his wife's death, he was the life of the party at the King's festival at Windsor, in honor of St. George. An old letter-writer says: "He was very gay and gallant, all in white cap-a-pie, even to his white hat and white feather."

With the failure of the Spanish match, came the disruption of the Spanish party in English politics, and Buckingham no longer wanted the Secretary of State, and was willing that he should resign. Sir Dudley Carleton received a letter from a friend on August 7, 1624, which said: "Secretary Calvert droops and keeps out of the way. It was reported last week the seals were taken from him," and on February 12, 1624-5, he received another communication informing him that "Sir Albert Morton is not yet returned from New Market, though I hear he be sworn, and hath the seals delivered by Sir George Calvert, who hath £3,000 of him, and is to have much more somewhere, besides an Irish Barony

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for himself or where he list to bestow it for benefits." A few days after this he left London for the northern counties with Sir Toby Matthew, a member of the Church of Rome, which says a letter-writer of the day, "confirms the opinion that he is a bird of that feather."

On the 11th of March, 1624-5, Sir George Calvert was created Baron of Baltimore, in the county of Longford, Ireland, and on the 27th his friend, King James, died. On Tuesday, the 29th of March, 1625, King Charles came to White Hall, and the oath being offered to Lord Baltimore as one of the Privy Council, he asked time to deliberate whether he might take the oath of allegiance, and the following Monday he was relieved of the office of councillor, and soon retired to Ireland.

The Lord Deputy of Ireland on the 29th of May received the following from the King:

"Whereas, our right trusty and well-beloved, the Lord Baltimore, has acquainted us with his purpose to repair into that kingdom, to reside there for some time; being a sensible person, and a nobleman of that kingdom, we have thought good by these, our gracious letters, to recommend him to your special favor, requiring you not only to give him all lawful assistance and good expedition in such occasions as he shall

have there, but also to respect him according to his quality and degree, and as one who is parted from us with our princely approbation and in our good grace."

From this time it was known in the community that Lord Baltimore was a Roman Catholic. Godfrey Goodman, once a Protestant and Bishop of Gloucester, now of the Church of Rome, writing of Baltimore's conversion, uses these words : "The third man who was thought to gain by the Spanish match was Secretary Calvert, and as he was the only secretary employed, so, undoubtedly he did what good offices he could therein for religion's sake, being infinitely addicted to the Roman Catholic faith, having been converted thereunto by Count Gondomar, and Count Arundel, whose daughter Secretary Calvert's son had married."

On the 16th of June the King promised Parliament that "no Popish recusant should be allowed to come to Court but upon special occasions," and Baltimore retired to Ireland, but the next year was recalled to be employed about a treaty of peace at Brussels, but for some reason he did not leave England. He now determined to make a visit to Newfoundland Plantation, for the purpose of looking after his interests. His motives can never be questioned, for, in May,

1627, a few days before his departure, he wrote as follows to his intimate friend Wentworth, the Earl of Strafford :

"I must either go and settle it in better order, or else give it over and lose all the charges I have been at hitherto, for other men to build their fortunes upon. I had rather be esteemed a fool by some, for the hazard of one month's journey, than to prove myself certainly one, for six years past, if the business be now lost for the want of a little pains and care."

In a ship of three hundred tons, carrying twenty-four guns, Baltimore sailed, and on the 23d of July, 1627, arrived at his settlement in Newfoundland. Among his companions were Longvyll and Anthony Smith, seminary priests, and William Robinson, of Timwell, Lancashire. After a few months' inspection, he returned to England and then to Ireland. In the spring of 1628, he again sailed for Newfoundland, taking with him a lady, to whom he was not legally married, a priest named Hacket, and all his children, with the exception of Cecilius, and two married daughters. The advent of the priests led to dissensions in the colony, and Sturton, the Protestant preacher of Ferryland, was dismissed a few weeks after Baltimore's second arrival. The winter of 1628-29 was very rigorous, and

Baltimore's house was an hospital all the time, and in August, 1629, he wrote to King Charles, that he must go to a warmer climate, and requested a grant of land in Virginia, where he wished to remove with some forty persons. Without waiting for a reply he sent his children home, and with his lady and servants arrived in October at Jamestown, to the surprise of the Virginians.

The Governor and Council inquired his purposes, and his reply was, "to plant and dwell." "Very willingly, my Lord," they answered, if your Lordship will do what we have done, and what your duty is to do." *

Refusing to obey the statute of England, he was told, that they could not allow him to settle, and that he must depart in the first ship. Leaving his lady and servants he sailed for England, and about the same period, the Virginia authorities forwarded the following statement to the Lords of the Privy Council.

" May it please your lordships to understand that about the beginning of October last there arrived in this Colony the Lord Baltimore from his plantation at Newfoundland, with an intention,

* In 1625, Captain Edward Tuchin, a Roman Catholic, was forbidden to trade or live in Virginia, "lest he might become a pilot to the foreign enemy."

as we are informed, rather to plant himself to the southward of the settlement here, although he hath seemed well affected to this place, and willing to make his residence therein with his whole family.

“We were readily inclined to render to his lordship all those respects which were due unto the honor of his person, which might testify with how much gladness we desire to receive and entertain him, as being of that eminence and degree whose presence and affection might give great advancement to the plantation.

“Whereupon, according to the instructions from your lordships, and the usual course held in this place, we tendered the oaths of supremacy and allegiance to his lordship and some of his followers, who making profession of the Romish religion, utterly refused to take the same, a thing which we could not have doubted in him, whose former employments under his late Majesty might have endeared to us a persuasion he would not have made denial of that, in point whereof consists the loyalty and fidelity which every true subject oweth unto his sovereign.

“His lordship though offered to take the oath, a copy whereof is included; but, in true discharge of the trust imposed in us by his Majesty, we could not imagine that so much latitude was

left for us to decline from the prescribed form so strictly exacted, and so well justified and defended by the pen of our late sovereign King James, of happy memory, and among the blessings and favors for which we are bound to bless God, and which this Colony hath received from his most gracious Majesty, there is none whereby it hath been made more happy than in the freedom of our religion which we have enjoyed, and that no Papists have been suffered to settle their abode amongst us, the continuance whereof we now humbly implore from his most sacred Majesty, and earnestly beseech your lordships, that by your meditations and counsels, the same may be established and confirmed unto us."

During the spring of 1630, Baltimore seems to have visited Virginia a second time, in the vessel intended to transport his lady and servants that had been wintered in Virginia; for, according to a record of March 25, 1630, in Hening's Statutes, Thomas Kendall was pilloried for two hours at Jamestown, for giving Lord Baltimore the lie, and threatening to knock him down.

In the year 1631 he secured a grant of a tract lying south of James River, * and the following

* This statement is from one of the Ayscough MSS. of the British Museum; but in Sainsbury's Calendar of

February a charter was prepared and signed, but it caused so much opposition from the members of the late Virginia Company, that Baltimore surrendered it, and, instead, obtained from the King a grant for lands north and east of the Potomac. In preparing the charter for the Province, Baltimore, who desired to call the country Crescentia, left a blank to be filled up, by the King before he signed the document. The King, when the patent was brought, asked what he should call the country he was about to cede. Baltimore replied that it would have been pleasant to have called it after the King, but that could not be, as another Province was already designated as Carolana. Charles then said: "Let us name it after the Queen. What think you of Mariana?"

Baltimore, a firm believer in the divine right of Kings, disapproved, because it was the name

British State Papers the following memorandum of Attorney General Heath no doubt refers to the same thing :

"*February 10, 1630-'31.—A. and B. [Arundel and Baltimore] request for the settling and planting of a degree from 34th to 35th north latitude, within his Province of Carolana, to be peopled and planted by them, with power to erect courts—two-fifths to be held in the King's service, with titles of honor, the rest in free soccage. Conditions of tenure: Payments to the Attorney General, as Lord paramount or predominant."*"

of the Spanish historian who taught *that the will of the people was higher than the law of tyrants*. Then Charles, still disposed to compliment his wife, said: "Let it be Terra Mariæ," and this name was written in the blank. A few days later, the Charter passed the privy seal; but, upon the advice of Attorney General Noy, the affixing of the great seal was delayed,* and, meanwhile, on April 13, 1632, George Calvert, Baron of Baltimore, died at his lodgings, at Lincoln's Inn Fields, and was buried in the church of Saint Dunstan's West, London.

A few months after the death of the first Baron of Baltimore, the charter of Maryland was made out in the name of his son, Cecilius, and recognized neither civil nor religious liberty. No church could be dedicated or consecrated except in accordance with the canons of the Church of England, and the freemen of England could not meet in Assembly except on the call of the proprietor; and when they did not meet, he was authorized to frame such ordinances as he deemed "wholesome."

An inspection of the charter of Carolana, granted in 1629 to Attorney General Heath, will satisfy any one that it was the document

* Ayscough MSS.

from which the charter of Maryland was framed, the differences being those of translation from the Latin, or merely verbal.

**CHARTER OF CAROLANA, CHARTER OF MARYLAND,
1639 A. D. 1632 A. D.**

"Charles, by the Grace of God," etc.: "To all to whom these presents shall come, Greeting:

"Whereas, our trusty and well beloved subject, Sir Robert Heath, our Attorney General, being excited with a laudable zeal for the propagation of the Christian faith, the enlargement of our Empire and dominion, and the increase of trade and commerce of our Kingdom, has humbly besought leave of us, by his own industry and charge, to transport an ample colony of our subjects," etc., "into a certain country hereafter described in the parts of America between the degrees of 31 and 36 of northern latitude, inclusive, not yet cultivated or planted," etc.

Know ye, therefore, that
we favouring the pious and

"Charles, by the Grace of God," etc. : To all to whom these presents shall come, Greeting :

"Whereas, our well beloved and right trusty subject, Cecilius Calvert, Baron of Baltimore," etc., "being animated with a laudable and pious zeal for extending the Christian religion, and also the territories of our Empire, hath humbly besought leave of us that he may transport, by his own industry and expense, a numerous colony of the English nation to a certain region, hereinafter described, in a country hitherto uncultivated in the parts of America." etc.

Know ye, therefore, that
we, encouraging with our

laudable purpose of our said Attorney General, of our special grace, certain knowledge and mere motion have given, granted, and confirmed unto the said General, his heirs and assigns forever, all that [the boundaries here inserted.]

royal favor the pious and noble purpose of the aforesaid Barons of Baltimore, of our special grace, certain knowledge and mere motion, have given, granted, and confirmed, and by this our present charter for us, our heirs and successors, do give, grant, and confirm unto the aforesaid Cecilius, now Baron of Baltimore, his heirs and assigns," [the boundaries here inserted,] "so that the whole tract of land," etc., "may entirely remain exempted forever to us, our heirs, and successors."

"And we do grant and likewise confirm, etc., "the patronages, and advowsons of all churches, which by increase of Christian religion shall hereafter happen to be built within the said region, territory, island, and limits aforesaid, with all and singular, and with as ample rights, jurisdictions, privileges, prerogatives, royalties, liberties, immunities, and royal rights, and temporal franchises whatsoever, as well

"And we do grant, and likewise confirm, etc., "furthermore the patronages and advowsons of all churches, which, with the increasing worship, and religion of Christ, within the said region, islands, islets, and limis aforesaid, hereafter shall happen to be built, together with licence and faculty of erecting, and founding churches, chapels, and places of worship in convenient and suitable places within the

by sea as by land within the said region, islands, and limits aforesaid, to have, use, exercise, and enjoy in as ample manner as any Bishop of Durham in our Kingdom of England.

premises, and of causing the same to be dedicated and consecrated according to the ecclesiastical laws of our Kingdom of England; with all and singular such, and as ample rights, jurisdictions, privileges, prerogatives, royalties, liberties, immunities, and royal rights, and temporal franchises whatsoever, as well as by sea as by land, with the region, islands, islets, and limits aforesaid, to be had, exercised, used, and enjoyed as any Bishop of Durham," &c.

Know ye, that we, upon further grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, have thought fit to erect the same tract of ground, country, and island into a Province; and out of the fullness of our royal power and prerogative, we do for us, our heirs, and successors, erect and incorporate the same into a Province, and do name it Carolana, or the Province of Carolana, and the said islands, the Carolana islands, and so forever henceforth will have them called."

Know ye, that we, of our mere special grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, have thought fit that the said region and islands be erected into a Province, as out of the plenitude of our royal power and prerogative, we do for us, our heirs, and successors, erect and incorporate the same into a Province, and nominate the same Maryland, by which name we will that it shall from henceforth be called."







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